

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION SS-25

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P R 081745Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7076

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T LONDON 00277

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CY

SUBJECT: GREEK APPROACH TO BRITISH ON GUARANTEES AND
TURKISH REFUGEES; BRITISH RESPONSE

1. GREEK AMBASSADOR ROUSSOS CALLED ON FCO PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY BRIMELOW JANUARY 7 AFTER RETURN FROM ATHENS. ACCORDING TO FCO'S GOODISON, ROUSSOS SAID THAT ON QUESTION OF GUARANTEES DENKTASH WAS PUTTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE. BRIMELOW AGREED. ROUSSOS ASKED WHY BRITISH DO NOT TELL TURKS THEY DISAGREE WITH TURKISH POSITION AND DO NOT BELIEVE CYPRUS SHOULD HAVE SAME GUARANTEES AS IN THE PAST. BRIMELOW REPLIED THAT TURKS WILL NOT LISTEN TO BRITISH AS LONG AS ISSUE OF TURKISH REFUGEES IN SBA REMAINS UNSOLVED.

2. ROUSSOS THEN ASKED BRITISH TO TRY TO GET SOMETHING FROM THE TURKS IN RETURN FOR RELEASING TURKISH REFUGEES IN SBA. BRIMELOW SAID BRITISH HAVE BEEN TRYING BUT WITHOUT RESULT. IF UK TOLD TURKEY IT WAS WILLING TO LET TURKISH REFUGEES GO, THAT WOULD SHIFT FULL ONUS OF WORLD HUMANITARIAN PRESSURE ONTO TURKS FOR GESTURES REGARDING GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES. ROUSSOS DID NOT REPLY.

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3. COMMENT: AS GOODISON TOLD US, BRITISH DO NOT HAVE SET HMG POLICY ON GUARANTEES. HOWEVER, BRITISH OFFICIALS, WHEN ASKED, WILL REPLY ON A PERSONAL BASIS THAT BRITISH ARE NOT REPEAT NOT ESPECIALLY KEEN ON ANY RENEWAL OF UK GUARANTEES.

SECRET

NNN

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